

CHAMPVA POLICY MANUAL

CHAPTER: 2
SECTION: 17.26
TITLE: MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND DRESSINGS (CONSUMABLES)

AUTHORITY: 38 CFR 17.272(a)

RELATED AUTHORITY: 32 CFR 199.4(d)(3)(iii), 199.4(g)(1)

I. EFFECTIVE DATE

February 26, 1986

II. DESCRIPTION

Medical supplies and dressings (consumables) are those items that do not withstand prolonged, repeated use.

III. POLICY

Medical supplies and dressings (consumables) items are covered when related directly to a covered medical condition and obtained from a medical supply company, a pharmacy, or an authorized institutional provider. Examples of covered medical supplies and dressings include disposable syringes for diabetics, colostomy sets, irrigation sets, and external surgical garments designed for use following a mastectomy.

IV. POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Generally, the allowable charge of a medical supply item will be under \$300. Any item over this amount is reviewed to determine whether or not it would qualify as a DME (Durable Medical Equipment) item. If the medical supply item does not represent an excessive charge, it can be considered for benefits under this policy.

V. EXCLUSIONS

Diapers, including both the disposable and cloth types.

END OF POLICY